

the foreign debt. Social Security is not contributing one penny to our national debt. We must remember that it's one of the most important commitments that America has made to its citizens.

The U.S. Government has purchased credit known as "special obligations" from Social Security. The credits are backed by "the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government," with the promise to redeem these credits. I support repaying the Social Security trust fund before any other debt is paid. Pay Social Security first before we pay other countries.

#### REPEALING HEALTH CARE LAW

(Mr. WESTMORELAND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, it was 3 years ago when President Obama and congressional Democrats pushed through their government takeover of health care. In those 3 short years, the law has already cost the American people over \$2 trillion and has raised taxes another \$1 trillion—and the law isn't even fully enacted yet. And what do we have to show for it? Higher government spending, higher taxes, higher deficits, higher health insurance premiums, and a lower quality of health care.

Companies all over the country are being forced to cut costs by laying off current employees or cutting their hours, putting on hold hiring new employees, and halting expansion. That is bad for American workers and bad for our economy.

House Republicans are committed to defunding, delaying, and dismembering ObamaCare and will continue to fight for the American people to get rid of this terrible law and replace it with real reforms that will make our health care stronger. As one senior Democratic Senator said, ObamaCare is a "train wreck."

#### FUNDING THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Many people have been concerned about the sequester and the effects it has had on airplane flights. And I am, too. People are delayed a half hour, an hour, or whatever, and that's bad. But the biggest thing people ought to be upset about the sequester is the fact that it takes \$1.6 billion out of the National Institutes of Health.

Mr. Speaker, each person in this room at one time will face a rendezvous with destiny. Whether that rendezvous is cancer, heart disease, stroke, Alzheimer's, AIDS, diabetes, or Parkinson's, the National Institutes of Health is working for cures and treatments. By taking \$1.6 billion from what is our personal Department of Defense, we are going to put certain people at

risk for death and for trauma. That is wrong. There is no more important funding that we do than the National Institutes of Health. That's our opportunity to save people's lives.

I will introduce a bill to take that funding out of the sequester. I ask my colleagues in a bipartisan manner to put the people first. The real enemy is disease. Fund the National Institutes of Health fully.

#### ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the greatest amount of opportunity, the greatest amount of success for the greatest number of people—ensuring that the American Dream lives for all—that's what we want. That's our goal. And our constituents know that the path to that goal demands real solutions.

Sadly, all we hear from the President and the other side is to just stay the course. More failed policies, more debt, more taxes, less American energy, more government control of health care, more dependency on government, less economic growth. That's their plan. And it simply isn't working for American families.

And now the President is forcing air travel delays, blaming the action on the sequester. The FAA is spending right now exactly what it spent in 2010. So these are Obama flight delays. The truth is that any spending reduction at the FAA could easily be gained by cutting waste, not necessary services.

President Obama, stop playing politics with the American people. We in Congress are used to it, but the public doesn't deserve it. Enough is enough.

#### CONGRATULATING OAK PARK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

(Ms. BROWNLEY of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate one of Ventura County's most distinguished school districts, Oak Park Unified School District, for winning the Sustainability Award from the U.S. Department of Education. Oak Park Unified was one of just 14 school districts in the entire Nation to receive this award, which recognizes schools and school districts for their exemplary efforts in reducing energy usage, promoting better health care, and providing better quality environmental education to their students.

Oak Park Unified Elementary School students are taking produce from their school garden and greenhouse to a local free clinic where they explain the impacts of diabetes to their patients and how to grow and enjoy healthy foods. Last year, another team of students sponsored the district-wide Week

of Whales and won the Presidential Environmental Youth Award.

I am so honored to represent the Oak Park Unified School District and am proud of their dedication to sustainability and to protecting the environment.

#### NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH AND NATIONAL DNA DAY

(Mr. PEARCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, April is National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. In fact, today is National DNA Day, where we commemorate the discovery of DNA's double helix and the subsequent scientific advancements.

DNA has revolutionized public safety and criminal justice in this country. It helps solve unsolved crimes. Since its inception in 1994, the DNA database system has solved more than 200,000 cold cases that provided closure to over 200,000 families. It assists prosecutors in taking criminals off the streets. It also exonerates the innocent, having freed more than 300 convicted criminals.

Katie Sepich was a 22-year-old graduate student at New Mexico State University in my district. In August of 2003, she was brutally raped, burned, strangled to death, and abandoned at a dumpsite. But Katie Sepich was a fighter, having the DNA of her offender under her fingernails. Through DNA, they were able to find and convict her offender and put him in jail.

The bill, which was signed into law here in this Congress last year, helps the State collect evidence. DNA has transformed our justice system and provided closure for families.

#### FLOODING IN ILLINOIS

(Mrs. BUSTOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BUSTOS. I rise today to talk about the recent flooding that has impacted families across my region. From Rockford to the Quad Cities to Peoria, Illinois, and in so many towns in between, communities large and small are suffering due to this month's record flooding. Among the worst hit areas of my region is London Mills, which is in the far southern part of my congressional district. Many there are suffering.

Amanda Franklin of London Mills lost her home, many of her possessions, and even her children's drawings that she has held onto since they were in kindergarten.

Bethene Weber, who is 78 years old, lost her home of almost half a century to the flooding.

There are far too many heart-breaking stories from across my region.